



Memories of Yesterday



Lightning struck in Duxbury in spectacular fashion three centuries ago, according to a passage in *AMERICA BEGINS*, a book of "dramatic records of early American life":

"September 11, 1653 (being the Lord's day), there were small drizzling showers, attended with some seldom and scarce perceivable rumbling thunders, until towards the evening. At that time, Mr. Constant Southworth of Duxbury, returning home after evening exercise in company with some neighbors, discoursing of some extraordinary thunderclaps with lightning, and the awful effects and consequents thereof, being come into his own house (there were present in one room himself, his wife, two children, viz., Thomas, he was afterwards drowned, and Benjamin, he was long after this killed by the Indians, with Philip Delano, a servant), there broke perpendicularly over the said house and room a most awful and amazing clap of thunder, attended with a violent flash or rather flame of lightning, which brake and shivered one of the needles of the katted or wooden chimney, carrying divers splinters seven or eight rods' distance from the house.

"It filled the room with smoke and flame, and set fire in the thatch of a lean-to which was on the back side of a room adjoining to the former, in which the five persons above-mentioned were. It melted some pewter, so that it ran into drops on the outside, as is often seen on tinware; melted round holes in the top of the fire-shovel proportionable in quantity to a small goose shot; struck Mrs. Southworth's arm so that it was for a time benumbed; smote the young child Benjamin in his mother's arms, deprived it of breath for a space, and to the mother's apprehension squeezed it as flat as a plank; smote a dog stone dead which lay within two foot of Philip Delano. The dog never moved out of his place or posture in which he was smitten, but giving a small yelp and quivering with his toes, lay still, blood issuing from his nose or mouth. It smote the said Philip, made his right arm senseless for a time, together with the middlefinger in special of his right hand, which was benumbed and turned as white as chalk or lime, yet attended with little pain. After some few hours, that finger began to recover its proper color at the knuckle, and so did gradually whiten unto its extremity; and although the said Delano felt a most violent heat upon his body, as if he had been scorched in the midst of a violent burning fire, yet his clothes were not singed, neither had the smell of fire passed thereon."

JOSSELYN'S

General Merchandise

GEORGE W. JOSSELYN, Prop.
Phone DUX. 680

SAVINGS

FHA REPAIR LOANS

MORTGAGE MONEY

Savings Bank

LIFE INSURANCE

PASSBOOK LOANS

FRIENDLY SERVICE

Custom Reupholstering

Tailor-Made Slip Covers
Free Estimates and Delivery

PAUL R. MORRISON

Winter St., Dux. Tel. Kings. 8444

TAXI SERVICE

24 HOUR SERVICE

We Will Drive You Anywhere
Harold A. Johnson

St. George St. Duxbury
Phone Duxbury 780

B. F. Goodrich

Coal, Grain, Fuel Oil

Tel. Dux. 132

Building Materials

Henry Olhson